boat, sucking cigarettes or sipping bitter Arab coffee, but when the water is warmer a longer period is spent in the sea. Food is not eaten during the diving hours as it is considered bad for the diver's health. 228

The splash and swirl of the blue waters of the Gulf, often as smooth and clear as glass, the glistening bodies of the sun-burnt divers, the deep-throated chanting of the Saibs and the mounting piles of dark encrusted shells, are sights and sounds never to be forgotten. From time to time the cabin boy, who is found on each boat, collects the shells in sacks and piles them along the sides of the boat. As the sun sets the crew eat their light meal of dates, fish, bread and coffee and then sink down with pleasure into deep sleep along the decks. Then all that there is to disturb the silence of the night is the crackling of the fire burning on the portable mud hearth, the creaking of ropes and the splash caused by the line of the midnight fishermen catching to-morrow's meal.

Next morning the members of the crew are up early and gather around the heaps of shells which are more easily opened after having been left in the night-air, and with deft flicks of little curved knives they examine the oyster's meat so that not even the smallest seed pearl is missed. The despoiled shells are tossed aside, to be collected later and thrown back into the sea. As the pearls are found, their finders stick them between their toes until they have collected a number, which are then handed to the nakhuda or captain. The latter stores them in a great wooden chest, studded with brass nails after tying them in small squares of red cloth, that being the colour which is believed to show pearls to their best advantage. When all the shells have been opened the remains a.e thrown overboard, the decks swabbed down and the day's diving commences.

From time to time boats return to Bahrain to collect fresh provisions and for the medical treatment of the crew. Fresh water, surprisingly enough, is less of a problem, for near many of the pearl banks there are submarine fresh water springs, some of which have been controlled by pipes affixed by the Bahrain Government. The monotony of the diver's day is also broken by the visits of "Tawawish," pearl buyers, who come out in launches to the banks to offer ready cash for their purchases, and by visits of hospital and police launches from Bahrain. The end of the diving season, as well as the date of its commencement, is laid down by the annual proclamation of the Bahrain Government. [312] [437] [656]

Despite the tales of travellers, sharks and saw-fish are not a very great menace to divers, they are in fact a rarity and for many years no diver has been attacked by either fish. The blue jelly-fish is more feared than either, for with its long tentacles it can give a most unpleasant sting, and it is to combat it that in the jelly-fish season many divers wear a form of cotton combinations covering all parts of the body except hands and eyes. The detrimental effect of diving on the men's health is often exaggerated, and with the better diet and medical treatment the divers of today are a healthy set of men and compare favourably with workers in other industries. [136]

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The Bahrain Government has tried hard to encourage the diving industry, by the remittance of the registration fees on diving boats, by customs concessions and by other means, but it is certain that the industry will never return to its palmy days when so many of the people of Bahrain were connected with it or depended on it.

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Visitors to the pearl banks are advised to set out at about midnight from Bahrain. Launches can be hired in Manama or Muharraq and if they leave at twelve midnight, the banks will be reached at two or three in the morning. The remainder of the night can be spent lying at anchor and in the early morning the opening of the shells can be watched, followed by the preparations for the day's work and the actual diving. The divers have no objection to being photographed at their work and welcome foreigners on board their boats, they do, however, appreciate a present from visitors and it is a good plan to take out some fresh dates or other fruit, for the boats, particularly at the end of the season, are usually low in fresh provisions and such a gift is very welcome.

CHAPTER VII

LOCAL INDUSTRIES

THE POTTERIES

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PEARLING is not the only ancient industry in Bahrain, for the presence in many parts of the islands of pottery sherds indicates that pottery has been made here for many centuries. Today this industry is restricted to the village of Aali whose inhabitants work in the same way as did their forefathers, scorning modern innovations.

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From the hills around Rifaa the clay is brought to Aali ; brown and red clay for the coarser objects and white clay for finer work. The raw clay is beaten and then mixed with water until it is ready for throwing by the younger members of the potter's family, for each pottery is a separate family concern. All the processes which go into the making of pottery take place in small sheds, in each one a potter can be seen at work, his feet in a pit working the wheel which is on a level with his waist. Rapidly he flings lumps of clay on to the spinning wheel and with deft fingers works the shapeless mud into graceful jars, bowls and other utensils. When each piece is completed it is set in the sun to dry before being taken to the oven. Most of the ovens [172] are built in the prehistoric tumuli south of the village, which have been excavated. A hole is made in the roof of the tomb and another at the side; in the former the objects to be baked are placed and the latter is filled with firewood. When the fires are lit the tombs become miniature volcanoes with thick smoke belching from their peaks, slowly the fires die down, the smoke clears and the baked pottery is removed and the ovens are prepared for the next baking.

796 who therefore disapprove of the whole affair, but it is rare that there
795 is any trouble between the two sects, both of them having adopted the principle of live and let live.

796 In the afternoon of the 10th Muharram the more energetic members of the procession go out into the villages where similar smaller processions take place and which are often made more colourful by the use of additional model tombs which are no longer seen in Manama. In the evening, as in every evening of the first ten days of the month, those who took part in the processions are feasted in the martams, and for three more days the orators continue to preach to the people, for it was for three days that Hussein lay on the field of Kerbela. But on the 13th of the month the period of mourning ends, the "props" are returned to the various martams, the collecting boxes are again displayed in the Shiite shops, out of which some of the expenses of Ashura are paid, and the Mullas return home to Iraq.

796 Europeans are permitted to witness the procession on the 9th and
609 10th days of Muharram, but it is illegal to photograph any part of the
656 procession and the State Police remove the cameras or movie-cameras and expose the film of those who break this law. In addition, unwary photographers have often been roughly handled by members of the Shiite faith, who feel that a sacred procession is not a suitable subject for casual snap-shots. It is therefore much more tactful to dispense with artificial means and to rely on one's memory for recording what is an unique occasion, for the procession has been banned in Iraq and Persia and so Bahrain is now one of the very few places where it can be seen.

CHAPTER X

BAHRAIN'S STAMPS

205 The generally accepted date for the establishment of the first post office in Bahrain, in the town of Manama, is 1884, and as the Indian Government was at that time responsible for political relations with the Ruler of Bahrain, it naturally followed that Indian stamps were used in the Islands. It was not till 1911, however, that a formal agreement granting the British a monopoly of postal services in Bahrain was signed.

In the first instance Indian stamps were used without an overprint—Indian stamps of Queen Victoria and George V post-marked "Bahrain," and it is only possible to trace stamps used in Bahrain by the post-mark. The two most usual post-marks are a circle with bars outside and two circles with the name at the top and the date across the centre. Fortunately the word Bahrain shows up quite well in most of these, provided that there is enough of the post-mark on the stamp if the latter is not on a cover. These issues were usually limited to 3 pies, ½ anna, 1 anna and 2½ anna stamps.

1: Belgrave F-3 (no date) 1953 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

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CUSTOMS REGULATIONS

There is usually little difficulty in importing goods into Bahrain, except the following, which are not allowed :—

(a) Arms and Ammunition,
(b) Alcoholic and intoxicating liquors (except under licence).
(c) Cultured, bleached or tinted pearls and undrilled pearls produced outside the Persian Gulf.
(d) Obscene, indecent or seditious literature or pictures,
(e) Dogs, except with special permission of the Director of Customs which will only be granted in the case of dogs accompanied by a veterinary surgeon's certificate of innoculation against rabies.
(f) Counterfeit coins,
(g) Opium and its allied products and cocaine and its allied products.

Books and printed matter, gold and silver bullion and coinage, samples, undrilled Persian Gulf pearls, implements and tools of trade for the use of the traveller are exempt from customs duties. For those arriving for the first time in Bahrain to take up residence, household effects, new clothing, silver and plate are also exempt from duties.

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All travellers may bring into the country not more than 100 cigarettes, 50 cigars or ½ pound of tobacco, the containers of which must have been opened.

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All other goods are liable to a customs duty. The duty on tobacco and liquor is 15%, luxuries pay 10% and necessities, 5%, but prospective travellers should not depend upon this as a hard and fast rule but are advised to ascertain the rates for each article. The Bahrain Government published a Customs Ordinance in 1950 in the form of a booklet, price Rs.2, which is obtainable from the Director of Customs, Manama, Bahrain.

LANGUAGES

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The official language of Bahrain is Arabic, but some English is spoken in most parts of the State; it is usually possible in cases of difficulty to find an English-speaking Arab

On the other hand the Arabs much appreciate foreigners who take the trouble to learn even the rudiments of their language, which, it must be admitted, is very difficult. For this purpose possibly the best book in print is Van Ess's *Spoken Arabic of Irak*. There are, of course, many other excellent books on Arabic, but for conversational purposes the one above approaches nearest to the particular brand of Arabic spoken in Bahrain.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

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All intending visitors to Bahrain are required to have passports endorsed for Bahrain, and in addition they should apply for an entry

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Staff :

Number of Clerks (Customs)	106	
Number of Clerks (Food Control)	10	
		116

Menials :

Customs, including Guards and Crane Crew	83	
Food Control	4	
		87

Salaries Paid

Customs Department	Rs. 3,49,193/-	
Food Control	28,998/-	
		Rs. 3,78,191/-

Menials Wages Paid

Customs Department	Rs. 1,25,899/-	
Food Control	7,897/-	
		Rs. 1,33,796/-

Bills of Entry. The total number of Bills of Entry dealt with was 34,728, an increase of 6,080 over 1371.

Particulars are :

Steamers	24,013
Craft	3,157
Baggage and Aircraft	7,558
Total	34,728

Shipping Bills. The total number of Shipping Bills dealt with during the year amounted to 54,641, an increase of 6,218 over 1371.

FOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT

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Holding ample stocks of rice at the beginning of the year under review, and having in mind the possibility of being able to discontinue rationing, the Government made no large scale purchases of rice and sugar in 1372. In all, only Rs. 6 lakhs were spent in the purchase of a small quantity of Persian rice.

During the year it became more and more obvious that there was plenty of rice available for export from Burma and Siam, so the Government called a meeting of leading importers, and informed them that if they were prepared to import sufficient rice for internal needs (about 65,000 bags, each of 160 lbs. per annum), the Government would cease to purchase and ration this important commodity. The Government would, however, continue to exercise a price control for at least a year. The importers agreed to do this and it was possible to cease rationing by the end of Ramadhan 1372. Since that date supplies have continued to arrive regularly to importers, who have retailed same to the public at prices below the controlled rate.

The Government issued to the public 8 lbs. of rice per adult for the first nine months of the year at prices ranging from Rs. 1.12.0 to Rs. 2.4.0 per ruba, since rationing ceased the price has not exceeded Rs. 2.6.0 per ruba, and is presently being retailed at Rs. 2.4.0 per ruba of 4 lbs.

Sugar was also de-rationed at the beginning of the year, plentiful supplies being available in the local market, and retailed to the public at prices ranging from Rs. 1.10.0 to Rs. 2/- per ruba of 4 lbs. The Government stock of sugar was reserved for *barter* for livestock from Iran and dates from Basrah.

262 439 Over the past three years the Government has subsidised the price of meat and dates to the extent of approximately £70,000 -, sugar costing from £6 to £7 10s. has been sold to importers of livestock and dates at £3 15s. per bag.

● 656 That this policy has been wise is shown in the figures of imports of livestock during Ramadhan and Shawal 1372, as under :

Ramadhan 1372 :	Cattle	1019	head
	Sheep and Goats ..	13327	"
Shawal, 1372	Cattle	526	"
	Sheep and Goats ..	10914	"

The retail prices to the public of beef, mutton, and goat meat in Bahrain are very much cheaper, by half at least, than in the neighbouring countries of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Fish supplies were more plentiful than in the previous year, with prices again well below neighbouring states :

Imports of consumer goods increased during the year, and there are signs of over-stocking of certain commodities, particularly piece goods, flour, tea and motor cars.

During the year it was noticed there was a downward trend in the price of certain commodities such as timber, iron bars, windows, joists and muraba wood.

Large supplies of fresh fruits arrived in Bahrain from Lebanon, Persia, Australia, America and India, during the year with prices considerably lower than in the previous year.

Although the Government ended rationing during the year, it still maintains a price control on such essential commodities as meat, fish, rice, sugar, flour, wheat, tea and coffee.

STATE ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

(Report by Mr. D. Brammer, Assoc.I.E.E., M.A.S.E.E., State Engineer)

The Electricity Undertaking

377 655 471 **The Power Station.** A new 750 K.W. Generating Set was completed and put into commission on 10th Ramadhan, increasing the total installed capacity of the station to 3,750 K.W.

Units generated amounted to 10,58,560, an increase of 28 per cent. on the previous year and the electricity supply to the public was maintained without any major interruption.

A notable achievement was the reduction in transmission losses from 13.25 per cent. to 6.26 per cent., a saving of some 360,000 units.

Mains Department. The four skilled linesmen who were recruited in India last year were discharged in Dhul Haj, 1372. Their work had become most unsatisfactory. The work of renewal and maintenance proceeded satisfactorily but the rate of connection of new consumers is still far too low and further efforts are now being made to recruit skilled staff in order to speed up this work.

A new underground H.T. cable was laid from the Power Station to "C" Sub-station and the H.T. overhead line between Muharraq Town and the Royal Air Force Station was re-erected and its capacity doubled.

[365] The H.T. underground cable around Muharraq Town was completed giving an extra supply of 320 k.w. to districts which had never before had an electricity supply, and some two miles of L.T. distribution were erected in the town, together with street lights.

GENERAL

648 **Distinguished Visitors.** Among the many notable persons who visited Bahrain during the year were H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent and H.R.H. the Duke of Kent, who were on their way to the Far East. H.H. Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, Ruler of Kuwait paid his usual visit to the country; H.E. Ghulam Mohammed, Governor General of Pakistan, stayed for a night on his way to Saudi Arabia. Other visitors were H.E. Dr. Mohammed Fadhel Al Jamali, Prime Minister of Iraq; Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck; His Eminence Jirjis, Daoud Kandila, Metropolitan of the Syrian Catholic Church; a group of British Members of Parliament; numerous rulers of the Shaikhdoms of the Trucial Coast; foreign diplomats; journalists of many nationalities and senior British and American Army, Navy and Air Force Officers.

Coronation of King Faisal. H.E. Shaikh Isa, the eldest son of His Highness, represented his father at the coronation in Baghdad in June of H.M. King Faisal II. He was accompanied by several of his relations. The Bahrain delegation travelled to and from Baghdad by air.

655 **Postage Stamps.** A Bahrain 1¼ Anna stamp, for internal postage, bearing a portrait of His Highness Shaikh Sulman, was brought into circulation during the year. Some progress was made in the process of the Government gradually taking over the administration of the postal services.

000 **"Calvex Bahrain."** The new oil tanker, *Calvex Bahrain*, was launched in December, in England. The launching ceremony was performed by Lady Belgrave.

471 274 **Pepsi Cola Factory.** Mr. Husain Ahmedi, a local merchant, built a factory on the south-west of Manama for making Pepsi Cola. This is the first enterprise of this type which has been undertaken in Bahrain.

423 656 **Stamped Paper and Title Deeds.** The Government adopted a new design of stamped paper, which is used for agreements, receipts, powers of attorney, etc. New forms were also introduced for title deeds.

797 **Anglican Church.** The building of an Anglican Church was completed on a site east of the Fort which was presented to the Anglican Community by His Highness Shaikh Sulman.

000 **Agriculture.** No report on agriculture has been included this year as Mr. J. Edmond, the Agricultural Officer, completed his period of contract with the Government and proceeded on leave, pending retirement, on 15th September, 1952.

Mr. Van Ollenbach was appointed Agricultural Officer and began his duties on 5th January, 1953.

HIS HIGHNESS SHAIKH SULMAN'S VISIT TO ENGLAND

648 His Highness Shaikh Sulman left Bahrain, by air, on 13th May and arrived back in his country on June 26th. His party consisted of his youngest son, Shaikh Mohammed bin Sulman, Sir Charles and Lady Belgrave, Mr. Husain Yateem and two secretaries.

He travelled by air to Beirut where he stayed for one night; by sea, in S.S. *Esperio*, to Venice where he stayed for three days; by train to Montreux, on the Lake of Geneva, where he spent four days, and on by train to Paris where he stayed for two nights. He reached London on May 28th.

5: Bahrain G-5 (1926-1937) 1937 M22 Bahrain M22

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●656 **Judicial Legislation.** From time to time the Bahrain Government has issued proclamations which have become regulations guiding the actions of the Bahrain courts. Some of these orders, such as the following, are of considerable importance.

Diving Regulations. Several different proclamations on this subject have been issued embodying the various changes and conditions which resulted from the diving reforms.

Wakils. A proclamation was issued laying down the conditions under which Wakils should be permitted to appear in courts and specifying their rate of fees. This became necessary after criminal charges had been proved against certain Wakils who had cheated their clients.

Mortgages. An important proclamation was issued to the effect that no property could be mortgaged unless it had previously been registered on a Government title deed.

Appeals. A regular system of filing appeals from the various Bahrain courts was issued by proclamation.

Statute of Limitation. The period was fixed at ten years, and the same period for acquisition of land by squatters' rights.

Liability of Government Servants. Liability of Government servants was defined in a proclamation forbidding the public to make loans to Government servants while employed by the Government except at their own risk.

PUBLIC WORKS

G53 The Bahrain Government has never had an independent Public Works Department. All buildings, roads, causeways, etc, etc., have been constructed under the supervision of Khan Sahib Mohamed Khalil, the Superintendent of the Land and Survey Department, which has combined the functions of Land Department and Public Works Department. This, in the past, has been a satisfactory and economical arrangement, but in the future, owing to probable expansion, it is proposed to separate the two departments and to start a regular Public Works Department. The Bahrain Government has, during the last ten years, carried out some large and important public works, including the Manamah-Muharraq causeway and the Naval base at Jidaar, and the plain, dignified style of the buildings constructed by the Government has greatly improved the appearance of the town of Manamah.

The first important public works were the Palace, the Government offices, and the Manamah sea road. These works were completed during 1925-26 and were undertaken by an Indian contractor. The construction of the sea road was satisfactory, but time has shown that the palace and the Government offices were badly built. Large sums of money have had to be spent on repairing and propping up the Palace, owing to its inadequate foundations, and various defects in the Government offices became apparent after a few years. After this experiment, all building, with the exception of some unimportant work in the villages, has been done by the Government directly. Local building contractors do not exist, and the experiment of employing a foreign contractor proved a failure.

G53 4/91 **Roads.** Since the Bahrain Petroleum Company commenced its operations in Bahrain the Government has been saved much money and labour as the Company maintains and builds roads in all parts of the concession area as well as keeping up the main road from Manamah to Rafaa, which is the most important road in Bahrain and which formerly cost the Government a considerable sum every year. The Government now confines its road work to areas in which the Company is not interested. The most important recent work is the new road from Jedhafs to Budeya which, instead of making a long detour round the coast, goes straight across country, so that Budeya can now be reached from Manamah in about twenty minutes. This will make it more easy to develop Budeya, where a school is being built. A police post was established last year, and the Government has recently purchased a large derelict garden, which is now irrigated from an artesian well, and is being put under cultivation.

6:Faroughy H-5 (no date)1951 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

in the making of boats, houses, and other construction. A special permit is required to import arms and ammunition; alcoholic liquor is restricted; and cultured pearls forbidden. 439 [C56]

The following table shows comparative figures on Bahrein imports and exports from 1941 to 1947. Figures are in rupees.

Table 6.

Product	1946-47	1944-45	1943-44	1941-42
IMPORTS				
Rice	35,82,420	13,45,370	9,67,870	32,48,800
Wheat	51,96,490	45,40,270	62,38,560	96,410
Wheat flour	41,960	8,22,380	17,88,220	7,67,420
Coffee	18,49,240	6,63,900	11,51,820	3,61,630
Dates	10,78,740	10,24,820	19,64,820	2,17,420
Sugar	9,48,580	15,14,500	11,28,170	7,74,190
Spices	——	——	7,05,050	——
Tea	13,54,330	26,11,210	——	5,50,260
Cotton piece goods	32,31,060	48,00,250	35,20,260	——
Silk piece goods	——	——	18,350	20,70,680
Cement	——	——	34,280	90,100
Other building materials	——	——	670	1,09,110
Woolen piece goods	9,13,440	1,21,000	——	——
Cigarettes	13,80,680	——	——	——
EXPORTS				
Pearls	6,76,290	7,37,890	4,79,720	2,53,510
Sugar	9,31,020	11,89,710	20,20,440	5,58,410
Tea	13,10,890	14,73,500	2,16,080	3,58,100
Wheat flour	——	5,34,930	14,21,810	4,21,700
Cotton piece goods	9,10,970	32,69,390	24,94,070	23,19,420
Rice	3,74,440	3,01,960	1,07,710	22,81,880
Wheat	22,76,390	25,00,860	29,97,480	59,130
Silk piece goods	——	——	7,650	——
Coffee	——	——	——	1,01,550

BAHREIN-U. S. TRADE

In 1931 the United States ranked fifth among countries importing goods from Bahrein but in 1933 she began to play an important role in Bahrein trade. The chief factor in bringing this about was the holdings in Bahrein oil by American interests through the Bahrein Petroleum Company.

63 Summaries of all C-5 (1941-1951) 1954
M1 Middle East
BAHRAIN M2 2

and Pakistan. Regular air communications are maintained to Iraq and Arabia, and the airport on Muharraq Island also serves international airlines with terminals in Europe, the Middle East and the Far East. Motor roads connect the towns and the villages on the different islands, and extend across causeways from Bahrain to Muharraq and Sitra. The local transport facilities are well developed, and motor bus routes link most of the population centers.

Food and Nutrition

The food habits of the diverse racial groups are varied, but serious undernutrition is seldom encountered, except among the migratory laborers from the mainland and the Baharna and Arabs in the agricultural and the fishing villages. The islands are dependent upon imports for a large proportion of their food supply. The government controls certain essential foodstuffs, as wheat, rice and sugar, and regulates prices through a system of rationing.

The diet of the average Bahraini consists of dates, bread, rice and fish, supplemented by native vegetables in season and limited amounts of meat and milk. Goats are raised in many villages, though their milk is usually scanty and poor in quality. Most of the meat is imported from Iran, and is correspondingly expensive. An assortment of fruits and vegetables is generally obtainable in Manama markets by those who are able to purchase them.

Housing

Manama is a cosmopolitan town, and the changes which have come about within the last two decades are reflected in the construction of increasing numbers of modern-type dwellings. Muharraq, in contrast, is a distinctly Arab community. Coral blocks, coral slabs and plaster are the usual building materials in the older houses, while cement is used extensively in the newer buildings. The typical Arab-style homes are built around inner courts and have utilitarian

63:Simmons et al G-5 (1941-1951) 1954
M1 Middle East
BAHRAIN M2 2

Island, but fresh-water springs, said to originate in the mountains of Arabia, are found in the shallow waters about a mile from the shore. Up to around 25 years ago, most of the water used in the towns was brought by donkey carts from wells or springs in the oases; sometimes by boats from the offshore springs. Water for domestic and irrigation purposes is now obtained from springs and shallow wells, and to an increasing extent from deep wells: several hundred artesian wells have been sunk within recent years on Bahrain, Muharraq, Sitra and other islands. In 1948, a special Agriculture and Water Committee was created in the government to control the water supply and prevent unnecessary wastage.

Manama has a municipal water supply, the initial stages of which were completed in 1948. Water, derived from artesian wells, is piped to about 70 per cent of the houses and to community fountains in the older, congested districts and *barasti* settlements. In other towns, water from private wells is used, or day-by-day supplies are purchased in 5-gallon cans from commercial peddlers.

Most shallow wells and spring supplies are unprotected and seriously polluted. Since the installation of a piped water system in Manama, many of the shallow wells have been closed, with a resultant decrease in anopheline breeding and in prevalence of intestinal infections. However, numerous opportunities for contamination still occur in the distribution of water from community sources. Distilled sea water is produced by a plant at Manama, but its sale for household purposes has been restricted since the town supply became available.

Waste Disposal

The methods of sewage disposal are generally primitive. Septic tanks are employed in connection with many of the newer houses, and in the oil company installations. Cesspits or simple privies are in use in the bazaar districts and the *barasti* quarters, as well as in the smaller towns and villages.

259(A)

63:Simmons et al G-8 (1941-1951) 1954
M1 Middle East
BAHREIN M2 2

spraying campaign. The existing species have not been determined: several are probably implicated in the spread of intestinal and eye infections. All forms of human lice are present. Numerous species of fleas occur, including presumably *Xenopsylla cheopis*, the usual vector of plague, which was frequently epidemic in the past.

Food Sanitation

The sanitary supervision of the markets, coffee shops, bakeries and other premises where foods are prepared or sold is the responsibility of the municipal authorities in Manama and Muharraq. Little governmental control has been attempted, but the new public health division plans to develop inspection services. Most of the meat used is imported, and is not subject to inspection in Bahrain. There are slaughterhouses, however, in Manama and Muharraq which are operated under the supervision of the municipal officers. No regulations exist governing the sale of milk. It is obtained from small herds of goats, and is often contaminated.

HEALTH SERVICES AND MEDICAL FACILITIES

Health Organizations

The Public Health Department of the Bahrain government is responsible for the protection of the health of the inhabitants and the enforcement of international quarantine regulations. It is administered by the Chief Medical Officer, whose headquarters are located at Manama. The department came into being in 1936, when the government hospital was erected, but, with the exception of malaria control measures, its functions were concerned primarily with the operation of medical care facilities until its reorganization in 1952. In that year, public health services were developed within the department, which now incorporates separate curative and preventive divisions. The port health authority, formerly under the Indian Medical Services, was taken over by

p. 260(A)